

A2 gain from expanding and improving the network and its services. For example, content service providers such as Amazon, Yahoo, Quest, Level3, etc., get customers that the content providers can target with merchandise, wireless devices, and services of all kinds. A music company can sell songs for a wireless MP3 portable music database/player. An Internet VoIP phone company can sell voice communications services. An online bookstore can sell books that a subscriber downloads and reads on a portable electronic device. Online magazines can sell access to their services. A medical monitoring company can sell real-time analysis of heart rhythms, possibly detecting a heart attack before it happens. The potential applications are numerous.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 1 with the following:

A3 Low mobility cellular telephone service, similar to Personal Handyphone System (PHS) in Japan, can be readily provided by VoIP-enabled WLAN user terminals that have the appearance of cell phones. These user terminals cooperate with application software resident either at their home ISP or at the content service provider's servers. This software coordinates the delivery of compressed voice packets between the user's terminal and a public switched telephone network (PSTN) gateway nearest the termination point of the phone call. The authenticator charges the content service provider per MB of voice traffic sent from and received by the user's user terminal (i.e., phone). The content service provider bills the user, for example, based on this usage data or, for example, based on more detailed information about call sources and destinations.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Once Amended) A method comprising:

maintaining, at an access point of a network, information about data received at the

A4 access point from a server accessible via the network;

providing to the server the information maintained at the access point;

receiving from the server a payment for an account associated with an operator of the access point.

Please add the following new claims.

52. (New) A method comprising:

providing Internet access to a wireless terminal connected to an IEEE 802.11 wireless local area network (WLAN);

tracking an amount of Internet access through the WLAN by the wireless terminal;

sending information regarding the amount of Internet access by the wireless terminal to a central billing entity; and

As — receiving from the central billing entity a financial incentive for providing Internet access to the wireless terminal.

53. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein providing Internet access to the wireless terminal connected to the IEEE 802.11 WLAN comprises the WLAN providing a connection to the Internet for the wireless terminal.

54. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein providing Internet access to the wireless terminal connected to the IEEE 802.11 WLAN comprises an ISP providing a connection between the Internet and the WLAN for the wireless terminal.

55. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein tracking an amount of Internet access through the WLAN by the wireless terminal comprises keeping a count of a number of bytes of data received by the wireless terminal through the WLAN.

56. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein tracking an amount of Internet access through the WLAN by the wireless terminal comprises keeping a count of an amount of time the wireless terminal is connected through the WLAN.

57. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein receiving a financial incentive for providing Internet access to the wireless terminal comprises receiving a percentage of an amount

billed to a user associated with the wireless terminal for a period of access to the Internet through the WLAN.

58. (New) The method of claim 57 wherein receiving the percentage of the amount billed comprises receiving one hundred percent of the revenue, minus a fixed fee.

59. (New) The method of claim 57 wherein receiving the percentage of the amount billed comprises receiving a fixed fee based, at least in part, on a monthly base charge to the user as specified in a subscription agreement associated with the user.

60. (New) The method of claim 57 wherein receiving the percentage of the amount billed comprises receiving a percentage of a total amount billed to the user based, at least in part, on a fee per time unit of access as specified in a subscription associated with the user.

AS 61. (New) The method of claim 57 wherein receiving the percentage of the amount billed comprises receiving a percentage of a total amount billed to the user based, at least in part, on a number of bytes of data transmitted to the user through the WLAN.

62. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein receiving the financial incentive for providing Internet access to the wireless terminal comprises receiving a financial incentive based, at least in part, on a number of new subscription agreements generated.

63. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein receiving the financial incentive for providing Internet access to the wireless terminal comprises receiving a financial incentive based, at least in part, on a number of times the wireless terminal accesses the Internet.

64. (New) A method comprising:
receiving information from an Internet service provider (ISP) detailing Internet access by a wireless terminal through an IEEE 802.11 wireless local area network (WLAN);

determining an amount to bill a user associated with the wireless terminal based, at least in part, on a subscription agreement associated with the wireless terminal; and

providing a financial incentive to the ISP for providing Internet access to the wireless terminal.

65. (New) The method of claim 64 wherein receiving information from the ISP comprises receiving information from a conventional wired ISP with a high-speed trunk to the Internet.

66. (New) The method of claim 64 wherein receiving information from the ISP comprises receiving information from the WLAN.

A5 67. (New) The method of claim 64 wherein receiving information from the ISP detailing Internet access by the wireless terminal comprises receiving data regarding an amount of time the wireless terminal accessed the Internet through the WLAN.

68. (New) The method of claim 67 wherein determining an amount to bill a user associated with the wireless terminal comprises:

billing the user a base subscription fee specified in the subscription agreement; and
increasing the amount to bill by an amount determined by the wireless terminal accessing the Internet for an amount of time greater than an amount of time indicated in the subscription agreement.

69. (New) The method of claim 68 wherein increasing the amount to bill by an amount determined by the amount of time greater than the amount of time indicated in the subscription agreement comprises increasing the amount to bill by a per-hour fee times a number of hours greater than a number of hours specified for the wireless terminal in the subscription agreement.

70. (New) The method of claim 64 wherein receiving information from the ISP detailing Internet access the wireless terminal comprises receiving data regarding a number of bytes received by the wireless terminal through the WLAN.

71. (New) The method of claim 70 wherein determining an amount to bill a user associated with the wireless terminal comprises:

billing the user a base subscription fee specified in the subscription agreement; and increasing the amount to bill by an amount determined by a number of bytes received by the wireless terminal through the WLAN over a number of bytes indicated in the subscription agreement.

AS 72. (New) The method of claim 71 wherein increasing the amount to bill by an amount determine by the number of bytes received by the wireless terminal through the WLAN over the number of bytes indicated in the subscription agreement comprises increasing the amount to bill by a per-megabyte fee times a number of megabytes over the number of bytes specified for the wireless terminal in the subscription agreement.

73. (New) The method of claim 64 wherein providing a financial incentive to the ISP for providing Internet access to the wireless terminal comprises providing to the ISP a percentage of the amount billed to the user for a period of time.

74. (New) The method of claim 73 wherein providing to the ISP a percentage of the amount billed to the user for the period of time comprises providing to the ISP one hundred percent of the amount billed to the user for the period of time, minus a fixed fee.

75. (New) The method of claim 64 further comprising providing a financial incentive to the ISP for generating new subscription agreements.